

Edmund Jennings Lee House
428 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia

HABS No. VA-452

HABS

VA

7-ALEX

69.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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Present Owner: Mr. & Mrs. Franklin F. Korell

Present Occupant and Use: Residence of Owner

Description:

Brick, Flemish Bond. Three-bay composition with ell and galleried porches on garden side. Gable roof with pair of arched and pilastered dormers, heavy modillion cornice continued under a pent roof across north facade. Lintels and winged keystones resemble stone, but clearly seen to be wood at a south second floor window. There is an unusually fine pedimented doorway with moulded Aquia stone steps.

Inside brass locks and latches are plentiful. Interior trim is in keeping with the elegant exterior.

Historical Data:

Year of erection: Gutterhead "1791"

Built for (first owner); The house is believed to have been built by Charles Lee, brother of Edmund Jennings Lee and Light Horse Harry. Charles Lee and his wife, Anne, sold this property to E.I. (18th C. usage for J.), in January, 1801 for \$5000., indicative of a substantial house.

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Charles Lee

Notable events and occupants:

Edward Jennings Lee was an eminent lawyer and is remembered in his native city for saving the Glebe lands for Christ Church in arguing the unconstitutionality of the act of the Virginia Legislature which confiscated church property. These same lands were later sold and the proceeds used for erecting the Church tower of Christ Church and the churchyard enclosure.

References: Gay Montague Moore, Seaport in Virginia..., Richmond, 1949, Chap. 23. HABI forms compiled by T. Russell Jones and Worth Bailey, HABS, National Park Service.

Approved

Dick Sulten
Chief Architect

Date

Feb. 16, 1957